

Barry Conservation District Invasive Species Technician (4 Positions)

Employer: Barry Conservation District (BCD)

Office Location: 1611 S Hanover St, Hastings MI 49058.

Pay/Benefits: The Invasive Species Technician is a seasonal part-time, temporary position, up to 40 hours per week, (800-1000 hours), with an hourly wage of \$15 - \$18/hour depending on experience. Such payments shall be subject to such normal statutory deductions by the Employer. Seasonal positions not eligible for benefits except those required by law. Mileage reimbursement available for on the job travel.

Start date: April 15, 2024, but flexible.

End date October 15, 2024, but flexible.

About the Organization:

Barry Conservation District (BCD) is a locally controlled governmental subdivision that provides natural resource management. Our mission is to promote responsible natural resource and land-use management for present and future generations. We work on a wide variety of conservation, education, and outreach initiatives including forestry, farm practices, invasive species management, water resource conservation, land management, and outdoor recreation. We are one of 3,000+ locally-governed conservation districts operating nationwide to solve conservation problems. Our guiding philosophy is that conservation decisions should be made at a local level with technical assistance provided by the government.

Barry-Calhoun-Kalamazoo Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (BCK CISMA) is a partnership of groups and individuals that work to address invasive species impacts on the environment, economy and human health across Barry, Calhoun, and Kalamazoo Counties. As part of BCK CISMA, funded by the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program, BCD operates a strike team to assist with treatment of select invasive species on your land.

General Description:

Barry Conservation District is seeking interested applicants to serve as an Invasive Species Technician for the Invasive Species Strike Team. The Strike Team primarily surveys for and manages invasive species that are strategically identified as high priority in Barry, Calhoun, and Kalamazoo Counties. These include, but are not limited to Red Swamp Crayfish, Japanese Knotweed, Mile-a-Minute Weed, Invasive Phragmites, Woody Invasives, and Spotted Lanternfly.

Technicians will primarily be expected to:

- Conduct invasive species removal through mechanical, and chemical methods.
- Survey land, or water for invasive species and map the extent of infestation.
- Communicate with landowners during survey and treatment.
- Ensure thorough data collection and record keeping in the field and office settings.
- Communicate effectively with the BCK CISMA Coordinator and others as needed.

- Safely operate equipment, including but not limited to watercraft, chainsaw, herbicide sprayers, UTVs, and hand tools.
- Other duties as assigned, including but not limited to outreach events and projects, such as managing recreation areas, natural shoreline restoration, recycling collection events, etc.

Working Conditions

BCD's physical office is normally open from 8 AM to 4:30 PM. All employees are expected to work when and where needed to successfully meet their program objectives. This position will require the applicant to conduct disproportionate fieldwork, travel across three counties, occasionally work nights, weekends, and travel, and be able to lift and carry 50 pounds on a daily basis. Employees frequently use personal data and mobile devices for recording landscape and geolocation data. This may occur in variable weather conditions, and variable and rugged terrain. Chosen applicants will be required to become a Michigan certified pesticide applicator and apply herbicide following all permits and label procedures. Chosen applicants will also be expected to have reliable transportation as use of an employee's personal vehicle may be required during employment, mileage reimbursement available. The employee will be under the supervision of the BCK CISMA Coordinator.

Lunch break consists of one-half hour (unpaid) per day. All regular part-time employees, temporary, and seasonal shall be expected to work the hours set by the Executive Director.

BCD personnel work with pesticides, and this position runs the risk of exposure to such chemicals. This position must wear all required safety clothing and equipment and have sufficient visual acuity to identify spills and other potential hazards.

Qualifications-

Required

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- Possess a valid driver's license, reliable personal transportation, and willingness to reliably commute across Barry, Calhoun, and Kalamazoo Counties.
- Willingness to work a varied schedule, outdoors.
- Ability to converse with team members and the public in a friendly, positive manner.
- Pass a background security check.

Preferred

- Ability (or learn) to identify aquatic and terrestrial plant and animal species of Michigan.
- Michigan pesticide applicator license (or ability to obtain one).
- Ability (or learn) to operate mechanical equipment in a safe and responsible manner.
- Navigation skills: compass, GPS, ArcGIS systems, etc.

To Apply: Send a one-page resume and a one-page cover letter by March 15th, 2024 to our online form at <https://www.barrycd.org/about/employment-opportunities>

Barry Conservation District is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Program Provider. Barry Conservation District aims to bridge gaps between communities, address inequities and ensure that all community members are included & engaged.